

Application No.

10/678,045

Confirmation No. : 6655

Applicant

: Hiroshi SHINRIKI, et al.

Filed TC/A.U.

October 3, 2003 : Unassigned

Examiner

Unassigned 010986.52822US

Docket No. Customer No.

: 23911

Title

: METHOD OF AND APPARATUS FOR PROCESSING

SUBSTRATES

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § § 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the document which is listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the aboveidentified application.

An English-abstract is provided herewith for the reference listed on the PTO 1449 as AA.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (1) no later than three months from the application's filling date or (2) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later), and therefore no certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (p) is required.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

Herbert I. Cantop

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July 5, 2004

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known Application Number 10/678,045 Filing Date October 3, 2003 Hiroshi SHINRIKI First Named Inventor Unassigned Art Unit Unassigned **Examiner Name** 010986.52822US Attorney Docket Number

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials'	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		US-	-		. iga.de / ipped.
		US-			
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS										
Examiner	Cite	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant	T ⁶				
Initials'	No.1	Country Code ³ –Number ⁴ –Kind Code ⁵ (<i>if known</i>)	MM-DD-YYYY	Applicant of Cited Document	Figures Appear					
	AA	JP 07-321046	12-08-1995	Hitachi, Ltd.		AB				
			1							

Examiner	Date	
Signature	Considered	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.